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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/663,586	09/18/2000	Glenn Adler	US000231	4088

24737 7590 08/16/2007

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER	
TAN, ALVIN H	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
08/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/663,586	ADLER, GLENN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alvin H. Tan	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07 June 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *29-46* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *29-46* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Claims 29-46 have been examined and rejected. This Office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 6/7/07, which has been entered in the above identified application.

Specification

2. The amendment filed 6/7/07 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: Applicant has deleted parts of the specification *[page 7, lines 6-9]* and *[page 10, lines 1-2]* to more narrowly define what the term "resources" refers to. By restricting it's reference to only that found on *[page 4, lines 1-3]*, the Applicant has changed the scope of the term and has thus, introduced new matter because the newly defined term "resources" was not originally found in the specification as being interpreted in only that particular way.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. Claim 44 recites the limitation "the interface" in *[line 8]* of the claim. It is unclear whether the interface refers to the interface for a monitor *[line 1]* or the user-interface *[line 6]*.

b. Claim 45 recites the limitation "the interface" in *[line 1]* of the claim. It is unclear whether the interface refers to the interface for a monitor *[line 1 of claim 44]* or the user-interface *[line 6 of claim 44]*.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 29-37, 39-41, 43, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sony CyberFrame PHD-A55 (hereinafter CyberFrame) as supported by the product review in TechTV (hereinafter TechTV), the product description in Outpost.com (hereinafter Outpost), and the Sony Hong Kong Press Release dated April 19, 1999 (hereinafter Sony Press Release), the Announcement entitled "Sony to Sell

Liquid Crystal TV with Memory Stick" by Nikkei Industrial Daily (hereinafter Nikkei), and Piety et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,637,871).

6-1. In the first paragraph of the Sony Press Release, it is established that the CyberFrame was released 4/19/1999. The first two paragraphs on page 2 of the Sony Press Release describe the CyberFrame product. Therefore, the CyberFrame product was made available to the public on 4/19/1999 and the TechTV and Outpost articles describe features of that CyberFrame product.

Referring to claims 29, 39, 40, and 46, the CyberFrame is a monitor having an interface with a storage medium reader that reads a digital image stored on a storage medium. See the second paragraph in TechTV that describes how memory sticks (storage medium) are read to display images from a digital camera.

There inherently has to be a controller to process and transfer the image from the memory stick to be displayed in the display screen of the CyberFrame. There necessarily must be some sort of controller/processor for moving the image data/file from the memory stick to the display screen.

The third paragraph in TechTV describes a user-interface operable to enable issuing a command to the controller to control the reading and display of the digital images on the display screen. See how the user can navigate through the images, rotate the images, and set up a slide show.

The CyberFrame has a mode of operation that enables display of a digital image from a storage medium (Memory Stick™) that does not require connection to a PC,

however, the CyberFrame is not described as a monitor for a PC or as having a mode of operation that enables the display of a video signal from a PC. However, Nikkei discloses TV with a Memory Stick™ that has a terminal that allows the TV to be used as a computer monitor (i.e. it may connect to a PC to display a digital image from the PC). See the second paragraph in the Nikkei article. The TV uses the same Memory Stick™ technology to read images from a digital camera as does the CyberFrame and thus may display the digital images in the same way as the CyberFrame (i.e. independent from the connection state to the PC). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the same display capabilities and user-interface for displaying digital images from a Memory Stick™ as shown in the CyberFrame within the TV/Monitor in the article by Nikkei in order to provide a large screen view of the pictures from the digital camera.

Although the CyberFrame and Nikkei teach displaying images on a monitor, the components needed for displaying the images are not expressly taught. CyberFrame and Nikkei do not expressly teach a frame buffer shared between facilitating display of the digital image from the storage medium and facilitating display from a PC. Piety teaches a highly portable system which facilitates the collection, display, analysis, annotation, and recordation of images *[column 1, lines 10-15]*. A video data collector 52 *[figures 1, 3]* includes a frame buffer used to facilitate the display of images *[column 8, line 58 to column 9, line 15]*. The video data collector may interface with an external image storage device *[column 17, lines 11-14]* as well as a separate PC connected to it *[column 6, lines 49-52]*. Using a single frame buffer for facilitating display of digital

images from both an external storage medium and a PC allows the video data collector to be highly portable without the need for additional circuitry or components for preparing images for display. Since CyberFrame and Nikkei teach using a monitor to display images from an external storage device and a PC, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the video data collector, as taught by Piety, to display the images. Using a shared frame buffer would reduce the number of components and simplify circuit configuration needed for preparing images for display from the PC and the storage device.

6-2. Referring to claim 30, the monitor of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety has a frame buffer in the visual display subsystem used to display images *[Piety, column 8, lines 58 to column 9, line 15]*. The images selected by the user to be displayed in intervals are read by the memory stick reader (storage medium reader) and transferred to the frame buffer for storage and display on the display screen.

6-3. Regarding claim 31, the frame buffer of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety must inherently be switchable between storing the digital image from the storage medium for transfer by said controller to said display screen and storing data from the PC for transfer by said controller to said display screen in order for it to display images from both the PC and the storage device.

6-4. Referring to claim 32, the controller of the monitor of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety processes the read digital image into a format that is compatible with the signal input of the display. See the JPEG playback in the first listed Feature in Outpost.

6-5. Referring to claims 33 and 34, the CyberFrame's user-interface enables the user to manipulate the image displayed, such as deleting or protecting images (stored data), sequencing the display of multiple images (slide show), resizing and rotating images. See the third paragraph of TechTV and the fourth, sixth, and seventh Features in Outpost.

6-6. Referring to claim 35, the manipulations are performed via on-screen menu selection through the user-interface. One of the Specifications in Outpost is an on-screen menu.

6-7. Referring to claim 36, the display screen is an LCD. See the second Feature in Outpost.

6-8. Referring to claim 37, the storage medium is a memory stick. See the first paragraph in Outpost.

6-9. Referring to claim 41, the monitor of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety includes means for transferring data from the storage device for the monitor to a storage device

on the PC. See the 5th paragraph of TechTV, which describes getting images onto the Memory Stick™ via a PC. Also, see the 4th paragraph on page 2 of the Sony Press Release, which describes how images are transferable between the Memory Stick™ and a PC.

6-10. Referring to claim 43, the third paragraph in TechTV describes a user-interface operable to enable issuing a command to the controller to control the reading and display of the digital images on the display screen. See how the user can navigate through the images, rotate the images, and set up a slide show.

7. Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the CyberFrame, Nikkei, Piety, and the article entitled "Sony's $900 Picture Frame", by Mark Gimein.

7-1. Referring to claim 38, the storage medium reader of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety is only explicitly stated as reading memory sticks. However, as Gimein points out, other types of storage medium (formats) do a good job of storing digital images and other data. See the third paragraph on page 2. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the storage medium reader of the monitor with Memory Stick™ reader of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety to be able to read two or more different storage media types to make the monitor compatible with other vendor's storage technology as supported by Gimein.

8. Claim 42 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the CyberFrame, Nikkei, Piety, and Examiner's statement of Official Notice.

8-1. Referring to claim 42, the monitor of CyberFrame, Nikkei, and Piety do not expressly teach wherein said communication means to transfer said data from the storage device to the PC is selected from the group consisting of a USB interface, a serial interface, and an IEEE 1394 interface. However, Examiner takes Official Notice that the USB interface is a common interface used for connecting and transferring information from storage devices to personal computers. The USB interface allows for a fast rate of data transfer and also allows for devices to be added to a computer without the need for an adapter card and without rebooting the computer. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a USB interface for transferring data from the storage device to a PC, since Examiner takes Official Notice that USB interfaces are commonly used for connecting and transferring information. This would allow quick transfer of data from the storage device.

9. Claims 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sony CyberFrame PHD-A55 (hereinafter CyberFrame) as supported by the product review in TechTV (hereinafter TechTV), the product description in Outpost.com (hereinafter Outpost), and the Sony Hong Kong Press Release dated April 19, 1999 (hereinafter Sony Press Release), the Announcement entitled "Sony to Sell Liquid

Crystal TV with Memory Stick" by Nikkei Industrial Daily (hereinafter Nikkei), Piety et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,637,871), and Liu (U.S. Patent No. 6,437,974 B1).

9-1. In the first paragraph of the Sony Press Release, it is established that the CyberFrame was released 4/19/1999. The first two paragraphs on page 2 of the Sony Press Release describe the CyberFrame product. Therefore, the CyberFrame product was made available to the public on 4/19/1999 and the TechTV and Outpost articles describe features of that CyberFrame product.

Referring to claim 44, the CyberFrame is a monitor having an interface with a storage medium reader that reads a digital image stored on a storage medium. See the second paragraph in TechTV that describes how memory sticks (storage medium) are read to display images from a digital camera.

There inherently has to be a controller to process and transfer the image from the memory stick to be displayed in the display screen of the CyberFrame. There necessarily must be some sort of controller/processor for moving the image data/file from the memory stick to the display screen.

The third paragraph in TechTV describes a user-interface operable to enable issuing a command to the controller to control the reading and display of the digital images on the display screen. See how the user can navigate through the images, rotate the images, and set up a slide show.

The CyberFrame does not expressly teach wherein the interface is located in an enclosure separate from the monitor and communicates with the monitor to display and

manipulate an image via a first communication means. Liu teaches an LCD display panel that may serve as an electronic picture frame display *[column 2, lines 23-36; column 3, lines 62-64]*. The LCD display panel is connected to a data input device via a cable *[column 4, lines 66-67; column 5, lines 1-27; figure 1]*. Having the input device separate from the display panel allows flexibility in orientation for a user controlling the display panel *[column 3, lines 44-52]*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to separate the user-interface for controlling the reading and displaying of digital images from the monitor, as taught by Liu. This would allow flexibility in orientation for a user controlling the display panel.

The CyberFrame has a mode of operation that enables display of a digital image from a storage medium (Memory Stick™) that does not require connection to a PC, however, the CyberFrame is not described as a monitor for a PC or as having a mode of operation that enables the display of a video signal from a PC. However, Nikkei discloses TV with a Memory Stick™ that has a terminal that allows the TV to be used as a computer monitor (i.e. it may connect to a PC to display a digital image from the PC). See the second paragraph in the Nikkei article. The TV uses the same Memory Stick™ technology to read images from a digital camera as does the CyberFrame and thus may display the digital images in the same way as the CyberFrame (i.e. independent from the connection state to the PC). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the same display capabilities and user-interface for displaying digital images from a Memory Stick™ as shown in the CyberFrame within the TV/Monitor in

the article by Nikkei in order to provide a large screen view of the pictures from the digital camera.

Although the CyberFrame, Lui, and Nikkei teach displaying images on a monitor, internal components within the monitor needed for displaying the images are not expressly taught. CyberFrame, Lui, and Nikkei do not expressly teach a frame buffer for storing data in two different modes of operation, wherein a first mode of operation enables display of a digital image from the storage medium and a second mode of operation enables display from a PC. Piety teaches a highly portable system which facilitates the collection, display, analysis, annotation, and recordation of images *[column 1, lines 10-15]*. A video data collector 52 *[figures 1, 3]* includes a frame buffer used to facilitate the display of images *[column 8, line 58 to column 9, line 15]*. The video data collector may interface with an external image storage device *[column 17, lines 11-14]* as well as a separate PC connected to it *[column 6, lines 49-52]*. Thus, the visual display subsystem must inherently have two modes of operation for facilitating display of images from both a PC and a separate storage device. Using a single frame buffer for facilitating display of digital images from both an external storage medium and a PC allows the video data collector to be highly portable without the need for additional circuitry or components for preparing images for display. Since CyberFrame, Lui, and Nikkei teach using a monitor to display images from an external storage device and a PC, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the video data collector, as taught by Piety, to display the images. Using a shared frame buffer would reduce the number of components and

simplify circuit configuration needed for preparing images for display from the PC and the storage device.

9-2. Referring to claim 45, the interface of CyberFrame, Liu, Nikkei, and Piety communicates with a PC via a second cable, the interface being operative to forward a video signal from the PC to the monitor in a PC mode and to forward the video signal from the interface to the monitor in an interface mode. See the second paragraph of Nikkei, which describes a separate terminal for connecting to a computer and acting as a computer monitor.

Response to Arguments

10. The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's cancellation of claims 1-28 and the addition of new claims 29-46. Regarding independent claims 29, 39, 44, and 46, Applicant argues that the prior does not teach a single frame buffer that is shared between facilitating both display of a digital image from the storage medium and display from a PC. Examiner has therefore rejected independent claims 29, 39, 44, and 46 under 35 U.S.C § 103 as being unpatentable over Sony CyberFrame PHD-A55 (hereinafter CyberFrame) as supported by the product review in TechTV (hereinafter TechTV), the product description in Outpost.com (hereinafter Outpost), and the Sony Hong Kong Press Release dated April 19, 1999 (hereinafter Sony Press Release), the Announcement entitled "Sony to Sell Liquid Crystal TV with Memory Stick" by Nikkei Industrial Daily (hereinafter Nikkei), and Piety et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,637,871).

and independent claim 44 as being unpatentable over CyberFrame, Nikkei, Piety et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,637,871), and Liu (U.S. Patent No. 6,437,974 B1). See sections 6-1 and 9-1 respectively.

Applicant states that dependent claims 30-38 and 40-43 recite all the limitations of the independent claims, and thus, are allowable in view of the remarks set forth regarding independent claims 29 and 39. However, as discussed above, Sony CyberFrame, the product description of Outpost.com and Sony Hong Kong Press Release, the Announcement entitled "Sony to Sell Liquid Crystal TV with Memory Stick" by Nikkei Industrial Daily, and Piety are considered to teach claims 29 and 39, and consequently, claims 30-38 and 40-43 are rejected.

Applicant states that dependent claims 45 recites all the limitations of the independent claims, and thus, are allowable in view of the remarks set forth regarding independently amended claim 44. However, as discussed above, Sony CyberFrame, the product description of Outpost.com and Sony Hong Kong Press Release, the Announcement entitled "Sony to Sell Liquid Crystal TV with Memory Stick" by Nikkei Industrial Daily, Piety, and Liu are considered to teach claim 44, and consequently, claim 45 is rejected.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record on attached form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R § 111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The

documents cited therein teach similar systems for a stand-alone monitor as photograph slide show projector.

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin H. Tan whose telephone number is 571-272-8595. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on 571-272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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